

Serial No.: 09/843,348

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claim 1, as follows:



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1. (Amended) A ventilation device for a fuel tank having an equalizing opening arrangeable in the fuel tank for equalizing a fuel tank pressure in the fuel tank with an ambient pressure surrounding the fuel tank, said ventilation device comprising an antisurge element arranged in front of said equalizing opening, said antisurge element comprising a fixed component having a plurality of individual channels, each of said plural individual channels having a diameter that is smaller than a diameter of said equalizing opening and having a length that is smaller than the diameter of said each of said plural individual channels, wherein a configuration of said plural individual channels is operatively arranged for allowing a flow of a gas medium therethrough and producing a resistance to liquid flow which prevents sloshed fuel in the fuel tank which splashes against said antisurge element from entering said ventilation device.

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length of indiv. channels smaller than
diameter of each said plural individual channels